



June 2, 2004

Alumni and Friends:

Here is the latest *Good News* from ULM. After reading this e-mail I hope you will forward it everyone on your ULM Buddy List. Each time we add an alumnus or friend to this list, we help spread the *good news* about our University.

ULM Receives \$1 Million Grant to Further Pre-College Programs

Colleges face a number of tough challenges in teaching science today. New fields that blur the lines between disciplines are emerging, and biologists, chemists, physicists and mathematicians are forging interdisciplinary collaborations. Scientists trained to be outstanding researchers need to learn to be outstanding teachers. More minorities must be encouraged to pursue scientific careers. To help colleges meet these challenges, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) is awarding \$49.7 million in grants to 42 baccalaureate and master's degree institutions in 17 states and Puerto Rico. This brings HHMI's investment in undergraduate science to more than \$606 million.

As a part of HHMI's program, the University of Louisiana at Monroe has received a grant in the amount of \$1 million. The money will be used to continue the Biology Department's pre-college programs for high school students. Dr. Frank Pezold, director of the Department of Biology and principal investigator for the grant, said, "We also hope to develop a bridge program to keep students involved up through the time they enter college."

At present, the department offers a summer program for 48 high school juniors to participate in hands-on projects with ULM professors. The new program would bring those students back the summer of their senior year, where they would work independently on research projects. The goal of the program is both to attract students interested in the sciences, and to give them a head start, getting them involved in work that they can continue as an undergraduate. Also, the department hopes to establish a partnership with Xavier University, which will allow undergraduates from the university to come to ULM for research work.

Pezold said, "This offers a great experience for both the faculty and the students. It's a chance to put the area's brightest students to work with the university's best professors. It encourages us as teachers when we see that enthusiasm and curiosity in students; it reinvigorates our interest, and leads to better work." Also working as co-principal investigators on the project were biology faculty Dr. Mark Decamillis, Dr. David Roane, Dr. Ann Findley, Dr. Anna Hill, Russ Minton, and Dr. Eric Pani.

HHMI invited 198 public and private baccalaureate and master's institutions to compete for the new awards. They were selected for their record of preparing students for graduate education and careers in research, teaching, or medicine. A panel of distinguished scientists and educators

reviewed proposals and recommended the 42 awards approved by the Institute's Board of Trustees on May 4.

ULM Dental Hygiene Students show 100% pass rate on National Exam

The American Dental Association, Department of Testing Services has reported that the University of Louisiana at Monroe graduating dental hygiene students had a 100% pass rate on the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination. The students also scored above the national average in all categories.

ULM dental hygiene students, who have had a 100% pass rate over the past several years, have also scored higher than many other students in the same field. Dental Hygiene Department Head Beverly Jarrell, says, "We are always proud of our students accomplishments. Year after year we have had a 100% pass rate and we are proud that we are providing the profession with quality students."

ULM Exercise Science Students to Intern at the White House and Stanford University

To many people a degree in kinesiology (the study of the anatomy, physiology, and mechanics of body movement) usually conjures up images of coaches-in-training. In reality, it's a very versatile career field. Kinesiology majors can have a career in areas such as athletic training, exercise science, health education promotion or fitness and sports studies and that is just the beginning. At the University of Louisiana at Monroe, several students have found their niche in exercise science and are moving on to fulfilling careers and interesting summers.

Craig Boyle is pursuing his masters of science in exercise science and will be attending medical school in the fall. He has accepted a prestigious internship at Stanford University where he will be studying under Dr. Victor Froelicher, cardiologist, on a grant from General Motors to study non-invasive procedures on the heart. Boyle, from Monroe, received his undergraduate degree in music from Brigham Young University. Playing in the Monroe Symphony, he says he has always had a love of medicine and music.

Exercise Science graduate student Benji Jones will be interning at the White House Athletic Center this summer. The program is designed for interns to achieve their maximum potential while serving the health and wellness needs of the Executive Office of the President of the United States. Jones is not particularly interested in politics he just wanted to do something different. Jones, from Gonzales, has been a graduate assistant at the activity center and at Glenwood Wellness Center. He was also a winning member of the ULM track team. This spring he was named the 2004 Southland Conference Indoor Track and Field Student-Athlete of the Year.

ULM Head of the Department of Kinesiology Dr. Wilson Campbell is pleased by his students' choices. He says physical education has changed dramatically in the last 15 years and it makes for a wider array of options for students. "There is a greater variety of job opportunities for our graduates. There are so many jobs they can do with a degree in kinesiology. There is a greater emphasis on health today. People are interested in their health, but still they need to be proactive about making better decisions and that is where our graduates can make a difference."

GOOD NEWS is e-mailed around the 15th and 30th of each month by your ULM Alumni Association. This e-mail contains a brief sampling of all the *good news* surrounding our university. For a complete listing of all of the *good news*, please visit the ULM web site at www.ulm.edu If you would like to be removed from this list, please contact Tommy Walpole (contact information is below). Thanks for your continuing support of ULM and I hope you'll help spread the *good news*.

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